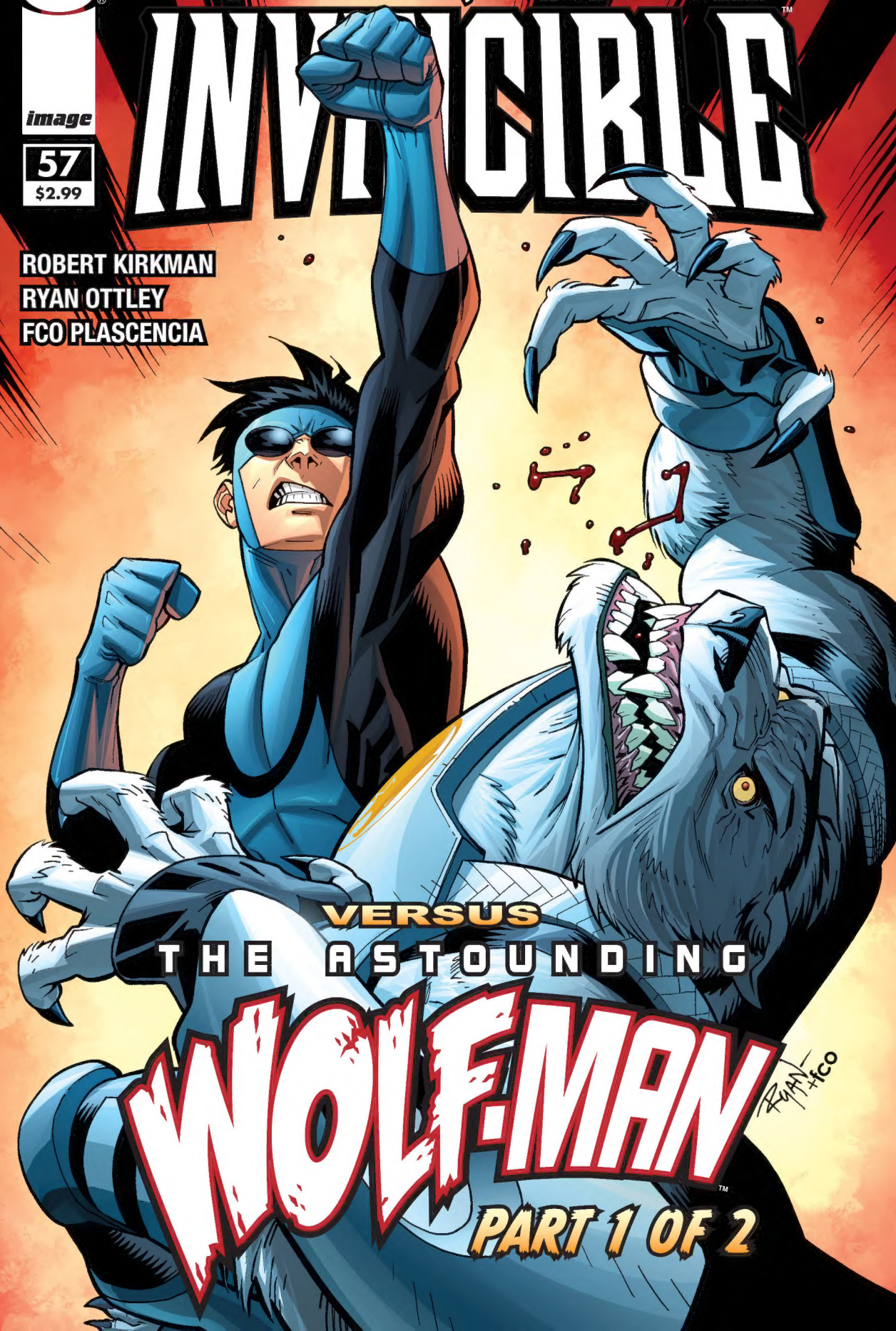




THE ALL-NEW, ALL-AWESOME

INVINCIBLE™

ROBERT KIRKMAN
RYAN OTTLEY
FCO PLASCENCIA



VERSUS
THE ASTOUNDING

WOLF-MAN™

PART 1 OF 2

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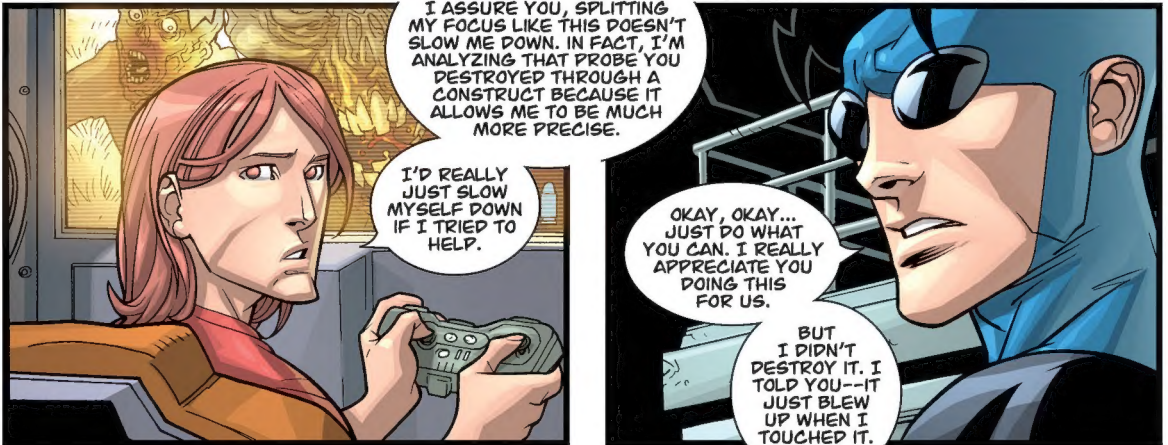
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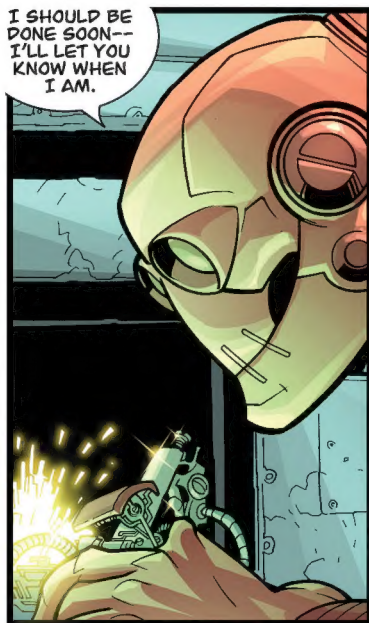
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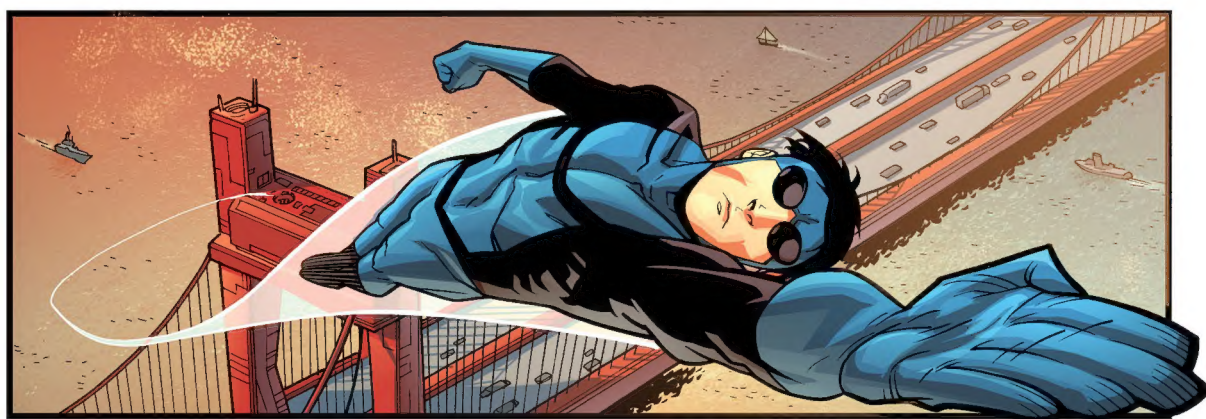
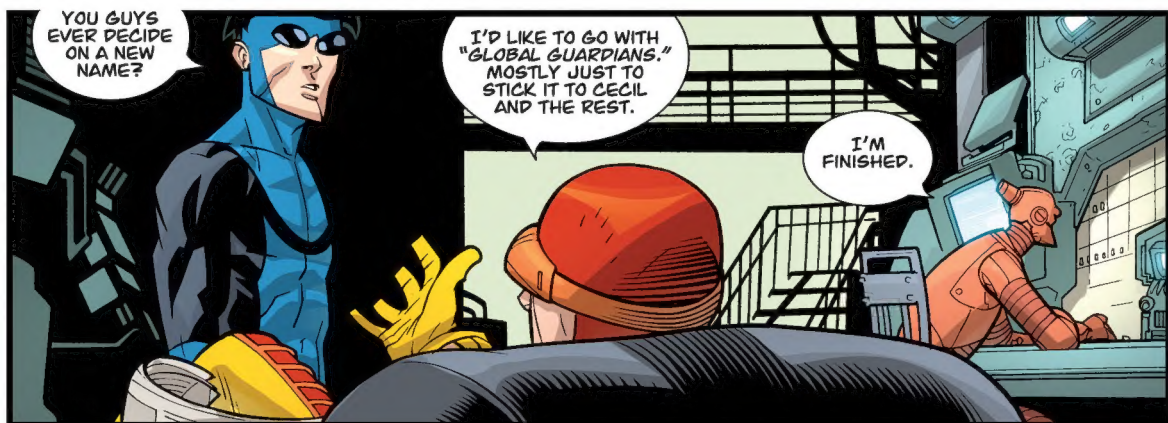
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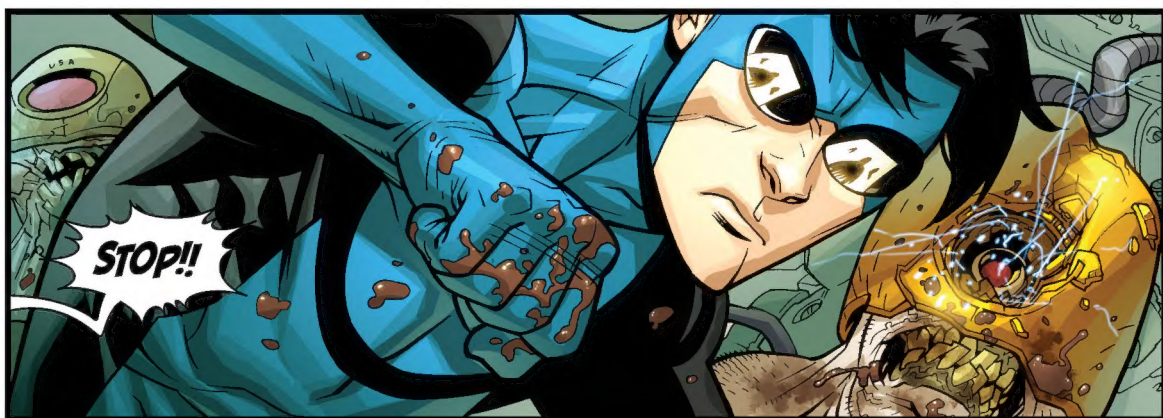
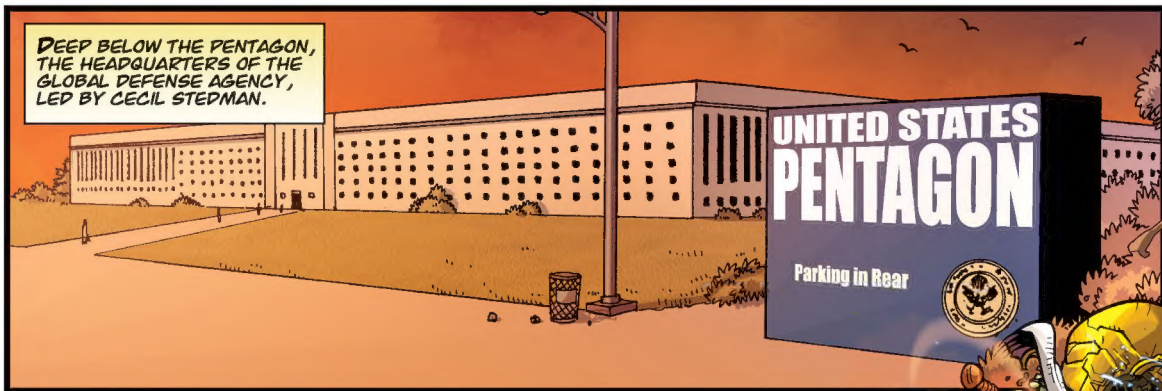
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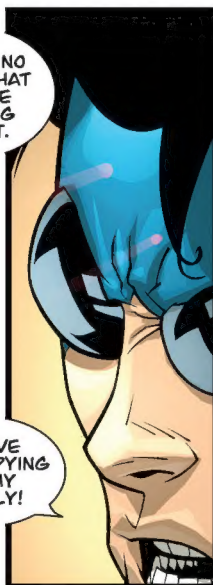
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NO WAY!
ARE YOU
KIDDING
ME?!

OF COURSE
NOT--WHY IN THE
WORLD WOULD I
HELP YOU? I DON'T
WORK FOR YOU, CECIL--
I DON'T LIKE YOU.



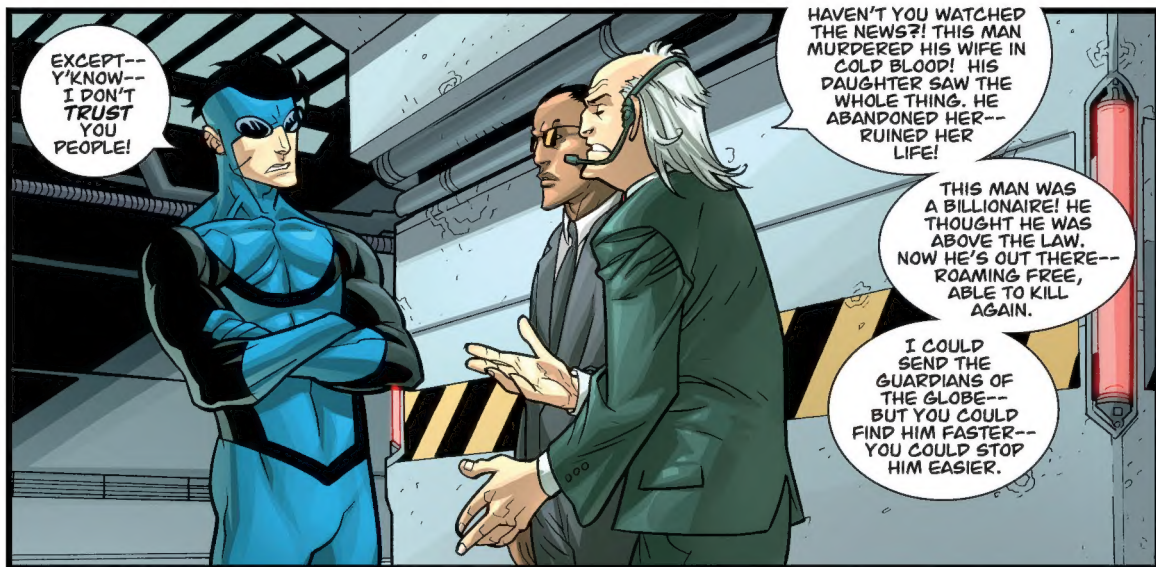
GET REAL HERE, KID.
YOU THINK FOR A MINUTE
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SLEEP
TONIGHT KNOWING THIS
GUY IS OUT THERE--
KNOWING WHAT
HE DID?

I KNOW
YOU TOO
WELL.



LOOK, KID--
YOU THINK WE
WANT TO ASK
FOR THIS? I
TRIED TO TAKE
THIS GUY
OUT--AND I
FAILED.

HE'S TOUGH--
BUT YOU COULD
PROBABLY GET
THIS GUY FOR US
IN AN AFTERNOON.



EXCEPT--
Y'KNOW--
I DON'T
TRUST
YOU
PEOPLE!

HAVEN'T YOU WATCHED
THE NEWS?! THIS MAN
MURDERED HIS WIFE IN
COLD BLOOD! HIS
DAUGHTER SAW THE
WHOLE THING. HE
ABANDONED HER--
RUINED HER
LIFE!

THIS MAN WAS
A BILLIONAIRE! HE
THOUGHT HE WAS
ABOVE THE LAW.
NOW HE'S OUT THERE--
ROAMING FREE,
ABLE TO KILL
AGAIN.

I COULD
SEND THE
GUARDIANS OF
THE GLOBE--
BUT YOU COULD
FIND HIM FASTER--
YOU COULD STOP
HIM EASIER.



JUST HELP
ME THIS
ONCE--IF YOU
DO, I'LL HAVE
MY PEOPLE
LOOK OVER THIS
ORB YOU THINK
I WAS SPYING
ON YOU WITH--
SEE IF WE CAN'T
FIND OUT WHO'S
WATCHING
YOU, AND WHY.

DEAL?

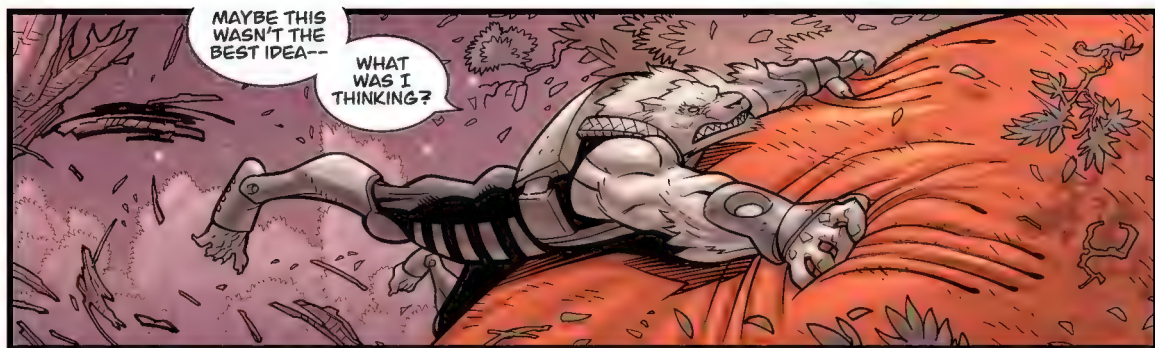


I DON'T THINK YOU HAVE
ANYONE SMARTER THAN
ROBOT ON STAFF--SO
THAT OFFER DOESN'T
MEAN MUCH.



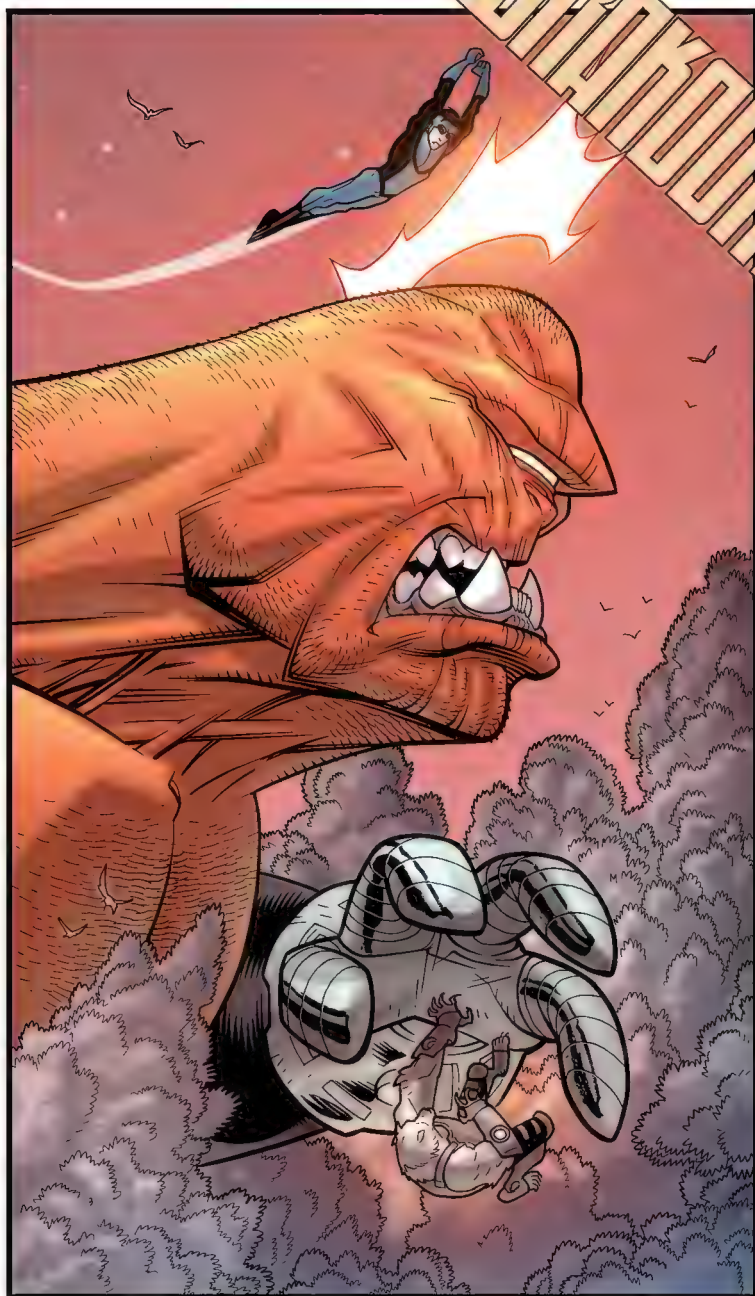
CRAP--WE'VE GOT
A PROBLEM. THE GIANT
HAS ESCAPED AND
IS ON A RAMPAGE--HE'S
TEARING THROUGH--
WELL--THE EXACT SAME
REGION WOLF-MAN
WAS LAST SEEN.

TWO BIRDS
WITH ONE
STONE?





COULD
HAVE GONE
THE REST OF MY
LIFE WITHOUT
FIGHTING
THIS GUY
AGAIN.



WROOOOAAA!



I'VE GOT YOU--
WHAT'S THE
SITUATION
HERE?

SEEMS
THIS GUY'S
ON HIS WAY
SOMEWHERE--
HE DOESN'T
MAKE A
WHOLE LOT
OF SENSE.

I KNOW
A LITTLE
ABOUT HIM...
NOT MUCH.

I DON'T
KNOW IF HE'S
KILLED ANYONE--
HE TRAMPLED A
FEW TRUCKS--
HE'S BAD NEWS,
I WAS TRYING
TO STOP HIM.

WHO DARES?!

I WAS A KING! I LED A KINGDOM!

WHO DARES STRIKE ME?!

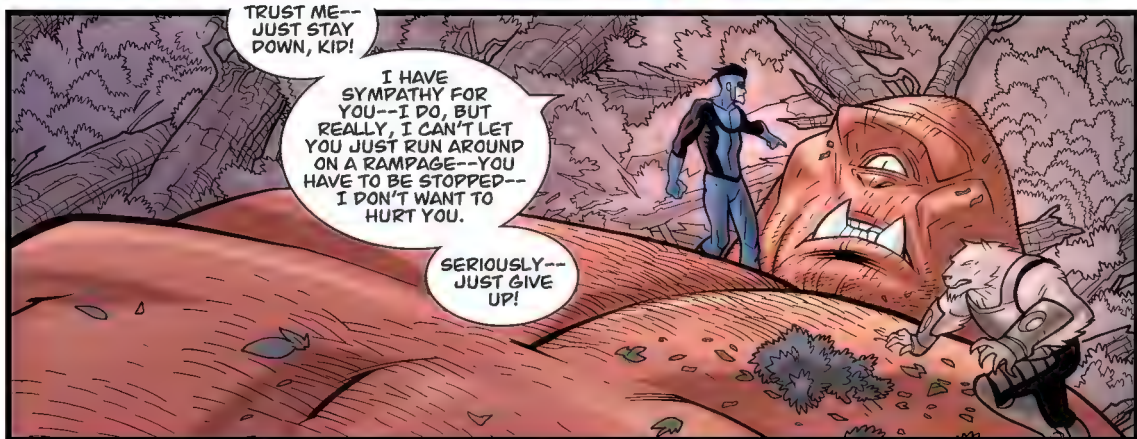
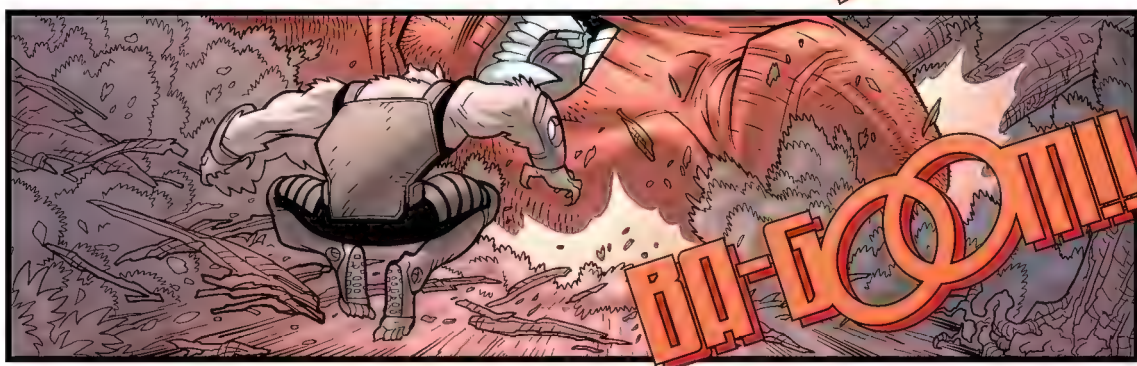
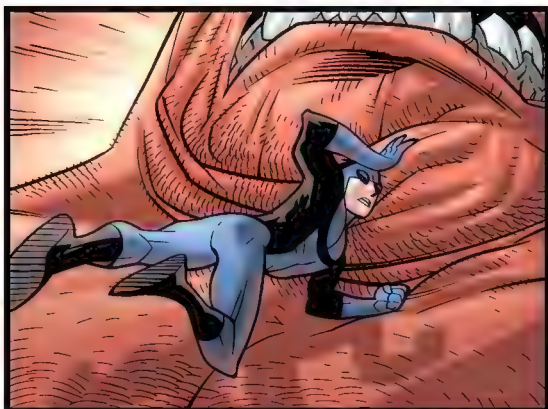
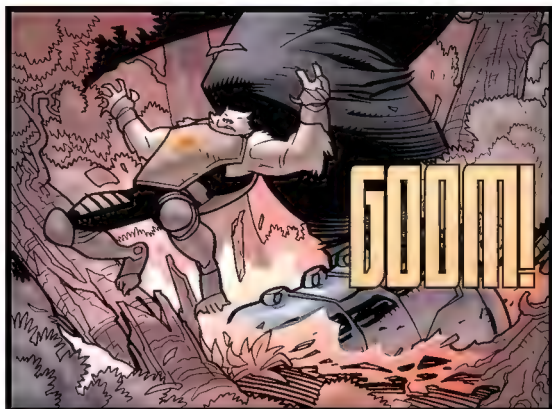
WHO?!

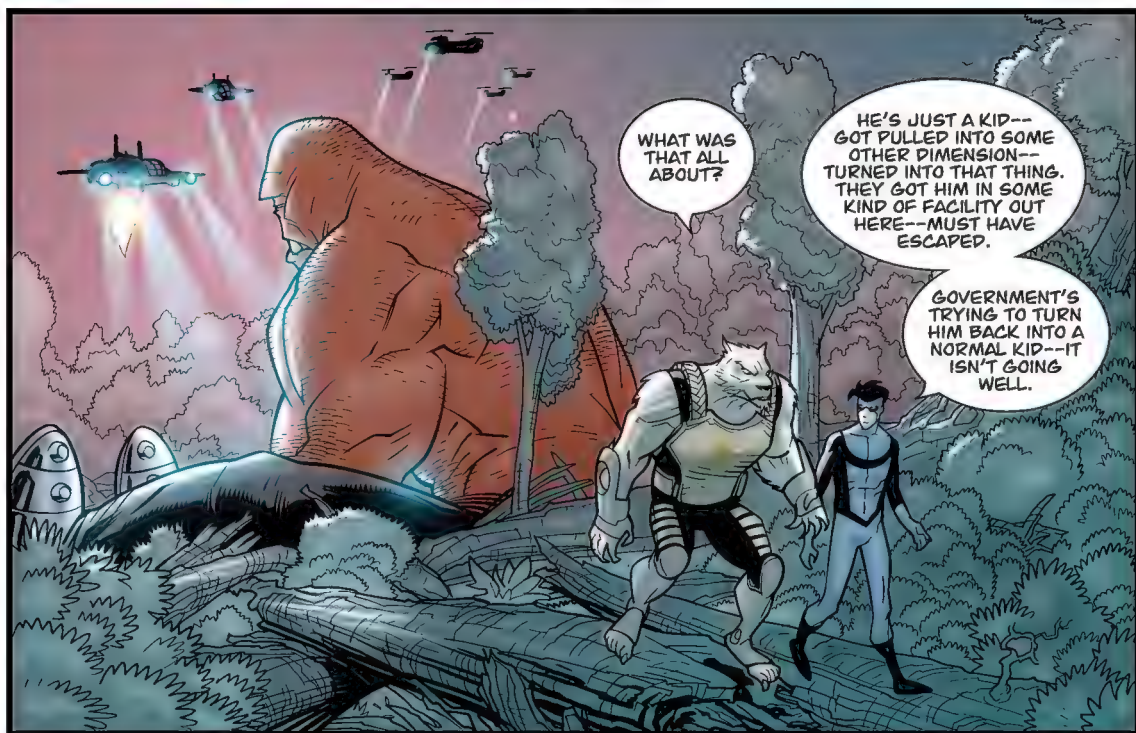
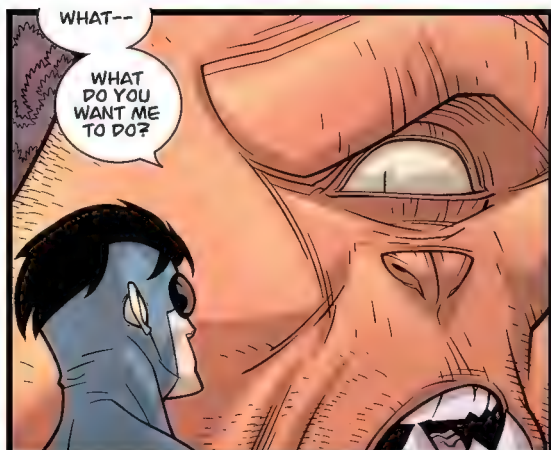
BRONKKKKKKKK!

THAT WOULD BE ME.

YOU--
IRK!!

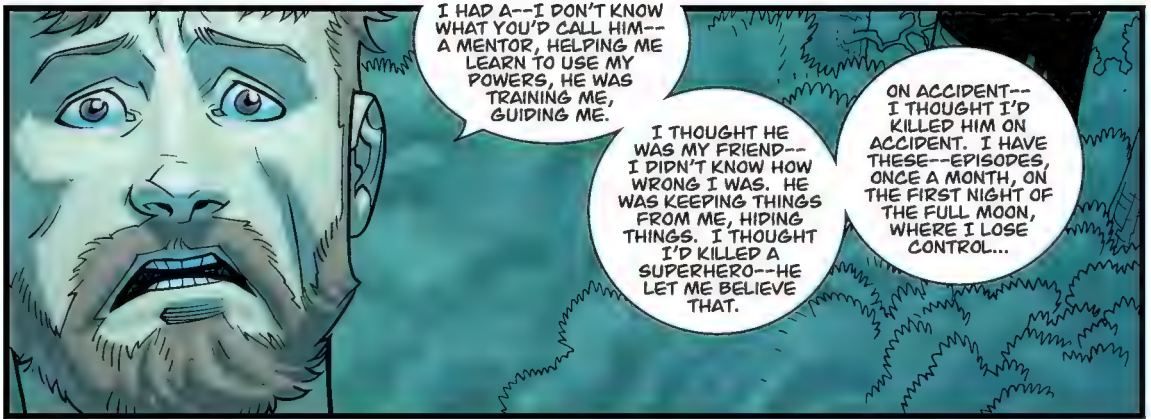
WROKK!











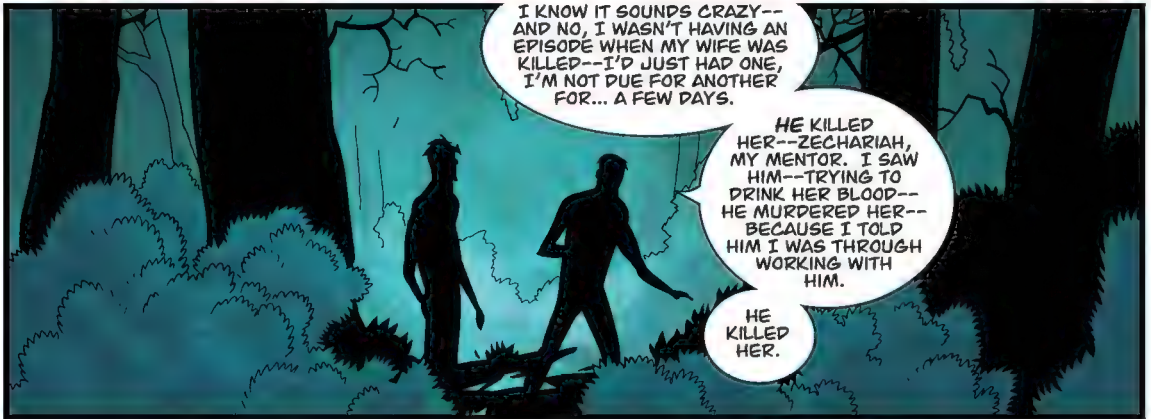
I HAD A--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'D CALL HIM-- A MENTOR, HELPING ME LEARN TO USE MY POWERS, HE WAS TRAINING ME, GUIDING ME.

I THOUGHT HE WAS MY FRIEND-- I DIDN'T KNOW HOW WRONG I WAS. HE WAS KEEPING THINGS FROM ME, HIDING THINGS. I THOUGHT I'D KILLED A SUPERHERO--HE LET ME BELIEVE THAT.

ON ACCIDENT-- I THOUGHT I'D KILLED HIM ON ACCIDENT. I HAVE THESE--EPISODES, ONCE A MONTH, ON THE FIRST NIGHT OF THE FULL MOON, WHERE I LOSE CONTROL...



I'M LISTENING...



I KNOW IT SOUNDS CRAZY-- AND NO, I WASN'T HAVING AN EPISODE WHEN MY WIFE WAS KILLED--I'D JUST HAD ONE, I'M NOT DUE FOR ANOTHER FOR... A FEW DAYS.

HE KILLED HER--ZECHARIAH, MY MENTOR. I SAW HIM--TRYING TO DRINK HER BLOOD-- HE MURDERED HER-- BECAUSE I TOLD HIM I WAS THROUGH WORKING WITH HIM.

HE KILLED HER.

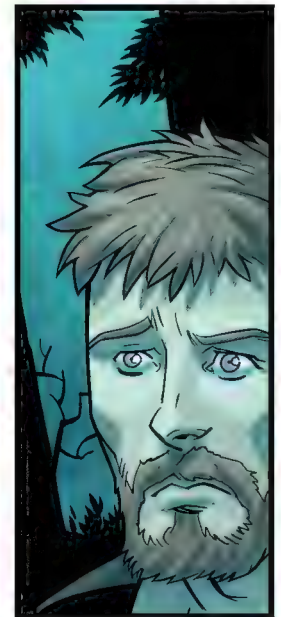


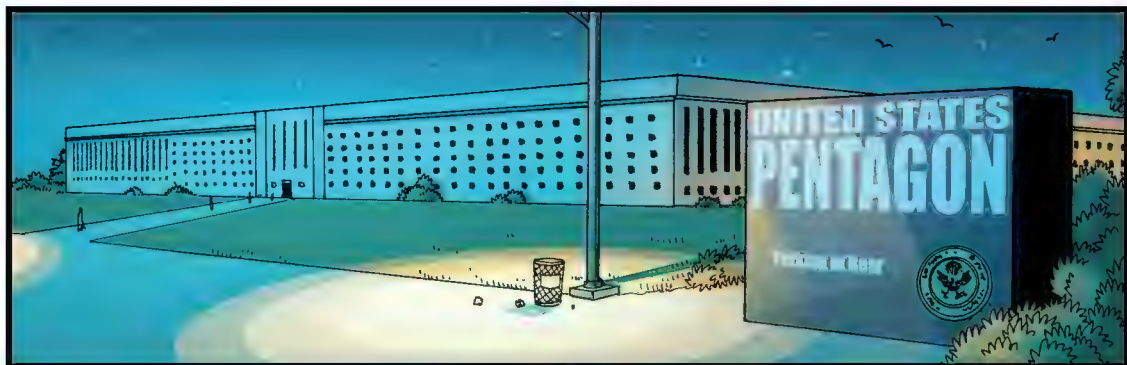
HE KILLED HER.



HE KILLED MY WIFE.

SHE'S DEAD.



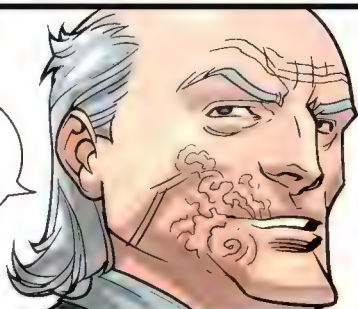


BRAVO, KID.
I KNEW YOU
COULD DO
IT.

AND--
DO MY EYES
DECEIVE ME--
YOU GOT HIM
TO DO IT--
VOLUNTARILY?

DIDN'T
EXPECT
THAT. KID'S
GOOD.

IMPRESSIVE.



THANKS,
BUT HE'S NOT
HERE TO TURN
HIMSELF IN.

HE'S
HERE TO
TALK.



THAT
WASN'T
PART OF
THE DEAL,
KID.

HE CAN
TALK TO HIS
LAWYER.
WE'RE
ARRESTING
HIM.



THEN I'M
CHANGING
THE DEAL. YOU
CAN LISTEN TO
WHAT HE HAS
TO SAY--THAT
DOESN'T HURT
ANYTHING.





AGENT HUNTER,
CAN YOU PLEASE
EXCUSE US?



GOOD LUCK,
MURDERER.



IT'S OKAY--
JUST LET
ME TALK TO
HIM.

ARE YOU TELLING
ME THAT YOU CAN
PARDON MURDERING
PSYCHOPATHS LIKE
DARKWING--BUT
YOU CAN'T EVEN
HEAR HIS
STORY?

THAT'S
INSANE.



NOTHING I CAN
DO HERE, KID. HIS
STORY'S TOO PUBLIC.
THERE'S NO WAY I
CAN HAVE HIM RUNNING
AROUND IN THE CLEAR.
EVERYONE KNOWS WHO
GARY HAMPTON IS---
THE WEREWOLF
SUPERHERO WIFE-
KILLER.

IT'S NOT
LIKE HE COULD
GO BY ANOTHER
NAME OR ANYTHING
EITHER... THE FUR
TENDS TO GIVE
HIM AWAY.

NO, SADLY--
HE'S USELESS TO
ME. I'VE GOT TO
BE PRACTICAL HERE,
INVINCIBLE. IF HE'S
GOT A STORY TO
TELL--HE CAN
TELL IT TO A
JURY.



THIS GUY
ISN'T A KILLER--
I ARRIVED TO
SEE HIM RISKING
HIS LIFE TRYING
TO SAVE PEOPLE
FROM THE GIANT--
TRUST ME--HE'S
ONE OF THE
GOOD GUYS.

I'M NOT
LETTING YOU
ARREST HIM!



I KNOW
YOU TOO
WELL.

DIDN'T
YOU WONDER
WHY I HAD
YOU MEET ME
IN THE WHITE
ROOM?



OH,
GREAT.

THIS
AGAIN.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
THE ASTOUNDING

WOLF-MAN
#11!!

WRITE US @

INVINCIBLE

C/O FUNK-O-TRON

P.O. BOX 54386

LEXINGTON, KY 40555-4386

INVINCIBLE@FUNKOTRON.COM

PEN INVINCIBLE

Welcome one and all to the first of our two part crossover with **THE ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN!** Please make sure to purchase **The Astounding Wolf-Man 11** to get the other half of the story. If you just dive on into issue 58 next month—you'll be missing out!

The Astounding Wolf-Man 11, should either be on sale the same DAY as this issue... or the following week, that's still up in the air right now due to the holiday printing schedule. I hope that helps.

That said, you guys are all already buying The Astounding Wolf-Man, right? So you guys already have your copies reserved and waiting on you—good.

You guys are great.

Let's answer some mail shall we?

Hello Mr. Kirkman,

Imagine my pleasant surprise at learning that a new issue of Invincible would be out a brief three weeks after the previous issue. I was stoked. I was excited. I had to wait yet another week, because a certain comics shipping company (which shall remain nameless) did not give the proper shipment to my comic book shop.

But then I got it last Wednesday! And it was great! I could go into all of the intricacies and nuances of your work, but that could get boring, so I'll just say what I enjoyed: Mark getting pissed at his mom, Mark getting mad that he got pissed at his mom, Mark getting with Eve, Mark getting into fight with stony faced guy, giant dragon guy breaking other guy out of jail, and little brother acting like angelic tyke when he's really going to make Mark sorry later. You know this can only end in tragedy.

Well, there are a couple other options... we'll see.

And I do have to comment on something. In addition to that Nate in the letter's column, I started picking up Invincible because of your work in **Astounding Wolf-Man #1 (Director's Cut)**. I picked up that issue just because it seemed like such a great concept: werewolves and superheroes. It's a concept that just works, like secret agents stopping terrorists, or librarians fighting space aliens. And I liked the series so much, that I decided to look into whatever else you wrote.

Anyway, thanks for the great series. I look forward to seeing what happens next.

Sincerely,
Chris Maher

Yay—chalk one up for The Astounding Wolf-Man. I hope you're enjoying the crossover so far, Chris.

Dear Kirkman,

I found this issue to be not very well thought-out! In fact the facts of it escape me – a lot like they did Immortal this issue! I didn't like it, but, who cares, right? Next issue: Viltrumites!!! And who were these guys who took 'Vince back to the future anyhow? I didn't catch their names, strangely enough – have they appeared before or something? When? Thanks for printing my letters and looking forward to the Viltrumite saga... but what's this: Final confrontation!?

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Shaw

Well... you got me Andrew. Those two guys from the future are named FIGHTMASTER and DROP KICK and they first appeared in issue 46 (which wasn't THAT long ago—you should remember) but I just skimmed the issue, and as near as I can tell... I didn't mention them by name at all. Groan. Sorry about that.

As you know by now, issue 55 set the ball in motion leading up to the big battle with the viltrumites that this series has been working towards since the beginning! And just wait until you guys see what happens after THAT!

Big stuff ahead, kids.

Dear Mr. Kirkman and Mr. Ottley,

Wow. I have to say that issue #54 of Invincible is probably the best single issue I've read since #23. That's not to say that there haven't been absolutely fantastic issues in between—there have been many – but this one is, in my opinion, cream of the crop.

Just when Andrew was starting to make me feel bad...

It was a great self-contained story for one, and I'm actually not always a big fan of those because I like to see longer developed plots, but it didn't pop-up out of nowhere either. You had introduced the two heroes of the future already, and shown us that Eve was getting discontent with her new relationship with Mark. Then you gave us a fast but entirely entertaining story with the great surprise of a future ruled by the Immortal. Fantastic. I also appreciate that it laid down more plot points to be explored in the future (no pun intended).

And of course, you guys concluded with Ryan's beautiful four-

page montage of Mark and Eve. I especially liked the second two pages showing all the key stages in their relationship since meeting in issue #2. Please don't break them up. They're the new Peter and MJ.

They're more like the new Peter and Gwen... OOP!

The other stuff you guys have been doing with the series since issue #50 (and before that, of course!) is great. Although I wouldn't say that issues #52 and #53 were my favorite ever, I feel that we're really building to something big. I'm definitely psyched (and surprised) to see Angstrom Levy back, as well as his possible team-up with Oliver?

And Ryan, your art is fantastic. Please don't ever leave this book. You've made the artistic style entirely your own, and you're an excellent visual storyteller. This book wouldn't be the smash hit that it is without you.

Props also to FCO Plascencia for some great coloring that definitely sets the tone. I also appreciate that Cliff Rathburn stepped in to help you guys catch up to your schedule – great work everybody!

Again, thanks for a terrific story. Please don't stop.

Appreciatively,
Rob Luff

No plans to stop any time soon—that's for sure!

YE GODS!

I liked what you did with #54; a touching little romantic interlude, with some sci-fi action, and on top of all of that, significant further developments of the Invinciverse (albeit in a "possible future" kind of way, I'm sure). All of that, and Mark got to keep his promise to not interrupt the date, courtesy of some clever paradox-surfing which reminded me just a little of Alan Moore's brilliant "Chronocops" story.

Chronocops? I've never heard of that.

Yeah, I just compared you to Sir Alan of Moore. Can I have a free t-shirt?

I'd never get around to mailing it to you—I do appreciate the comparison though.

Anyway, despite the graphic beheading, #54 was a sweet change of pace from the recent angst with Oliver. Then I saw the "Next Issue" blurb and it seems that the romantic interlude will turn out to be just the calm before the storm. Brilliant!

Kelvin Green

We do try to keep things lively here at Invincible central.

Dear K-to-the-irkman,

What's going down, my fellow Midwest holmes? I have a question for ya that I've been thinking about since all the way

back in issue #25: Rudy, the Robot-controlling lump of ugly that he was, stole Rex's DNA to make himself a body, that much is obvious. But with him being an absolute genius and all, you think he woulda tried to take Invincible's DNA...I mean a Viltrumite body woulda been so much more useful to Rudy (not to mention cooler); hell, a Rex clone doesn't even have natural superpowers. So, I thought you could just shoot me the 411 on all of that!

Rudy knew that Monster Girl was attracted to Rex... that's why he picked that body. He witnessed her checking Rex out shortly before he stole Rex's DNA. He's already super smart and has a bunch of robot bodies... he doesn't need Mark's body.

Second, I'm totally diggin' the path you've taken the Immortal down in issue #54...I cannot wait to see that story develop in the coming issues...I hope that's something you definitely decide to roll with!

Keep 'em coming,
Brad Ross

I have a lot of big plans for the Immortal—I dig him quite a bit. So by all means—stay tuned!

I'm getting a really bad deja vu feeling that this whole issue is just set up for when Angstrom kills Eve. But then I remembered that this book is better than every other cookie-cutter superhero title out there.

Ulp!

So my thoughts and fears are completely unjustified and Invincible is not going to turn into cliché-city.

Right?

Right?!

Hello?!!

Crickets?!!!!

Kris Ehrig

Gulp!

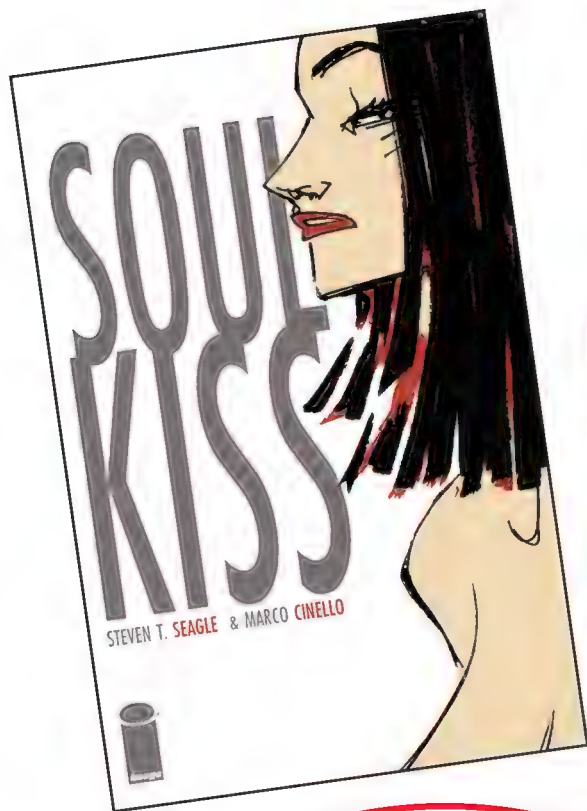
PS: Do something with the website please.

The new and improved www.kirkmania.com has gone live! Created by the big brain behind hiddenrobot.com, Tim Daniel. Please check it out—and sign up for KIRKSPAM!

That's it for this month, kids. I'll see you all back here next month—the start of "ON TIME IN '09!" Wish us luck!!

—Robert Kirkman





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FEBRUARY 2009



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FEBRUARY 2009!



NEXT ISSUE

YOUNG LOVE...





SAVAGE DRAGON

BACK IN BLUE

FEATURING PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA!

FEBRUARY 2009

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